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Letter To The Editor

June 4, 1976

Times-Virginian
Appomattox, Va.
24522

Dear Sir:

As 1976 Fund-Raising Chairman for the Central Virginia Branch of the Arthritis Foundation, I would like to take this opportunity to "Thank" all of the citizens and businesses of the city of Appomattox for helping to make our May drive a success!

By all standards, Appomattox is considered a "small town", but they seem to take on their endeavors in a "big way".

Sincerely,
James K. Walker, Jr.
Fund-Raising Chairman

Oakville

Mrs. Alise Drinkard had as her supper guests on Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Giles Slade and daughter Mrs. Mildred Clum of Lynchburg and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Slade and children of Iowa.

Mr. Tom Moore and Mr. Roland Smith visited in the home of Mrs. Maggie Gardner and Ethel last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Burcher and Christopher of Bedford visited Mrs. Lena Burcher and Mr. and Mrs. Garland Burcher and Michael on Sunday. Mrs. Mary Jane Burcher was luncheon guest for the same home.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin were supper guests on Saturday night of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Megginson.

Mr. and Mrs. Otho Martin Jr. have returned home after spending several days in Williamsburg.

Sunday afternoon visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Smith were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Reynolds and daughter Michelle of Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Joel W. Smith and son Joel of Lynchburg and Mrs. Mollie Rogers.

Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Jordan and Katherine were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Covington on Sunday.

Week-end visitors in the home of Mrs. Maggie Gardne. and Ethel were Mrs. Tommy Covington, John Walker, and Shawn Faye, Mrs. Walker Covington, Mr. Allen Gardner and Mr. Gary Foster.

Sorry to report that Kevin Moore had the misfortune to fracture his ankle while playing ball at Bible School last week.

Mr. and Mrs. James Marshall, Doug, and Kathy were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Jordan of Phenix, Va. on Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster Lucado visited Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bass in Halifax County last Wednesday. Mrs. Lucado remained and spent several days with her father. On Sunday they joined other members of the Bass family to celebrate Fathers Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Martin were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin. Supper guests in the Martin home were Mr. and Mrs. James Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Page, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Martin, Stephanie, Millicent and Timmy. The occasion being Fathers Day and also Mrs. Martin's birthday. Mr and Mrs. Garland Plunkett and Mr. and Mrs. Riley Megginson visited during the afternoon.

Kathy Marshall spent last week at the Virginia Beach Music Festival with the Prince Edward Academy Band, which was in competition there. The band received the award for the Best Drum Majorette at the Festival. The Prince Edward Academy Band also made history at the Virginia Music Festival this annual event by being the first ever to receive one hundred per cent on inspection given by the Department of the U. S. Navy.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Richardson and Bill were Mrs. Dora Coleman and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith, Michael and Todd.

Loretta Walker

RECEIVES DEGREE

Loretta Walker, a former student at Appomattox County High School, graduated from an institution of higher education May 17, 1976. Miss Walker enrolled at Norfolk State College in 1972 as a student of Home Economics with emphasis in Home Economics Education. Upon completion of the program, she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics and a Virginia Teaching Certificate.

During her college years, Miss Walker was an active member of the Home Economics Club and community activities. She is not the first in her family to receive a college education from N.S.C. Years before, her sister, Ann Ilean Walker, (now deceased) had taken the same trip to Norfolk to attend Norfolk State College.

Miss Walker will continue to reside in Norfolk until she is professionally employed. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker Mt. Rt. 1, Pamplin.

The Pastor Speaks

THE LOVE OF THE LORD

Christian, look back through all of your experiences, and think of the way the Lord your God has led you in the wilderness and how He has fed and clothed you every day; how He has put up with all of your murmurings, and all of your longings after the flesh-pots of Egypt. How He has opened the rock to supply you, and fed you with manna that came down from heaven. Think of how His grace has been sufficient for you in all of your troubles, how His blood has been a pardon to you in all of your sins; how His rod and staff have comforted you. When you have looked back upon the Love of the Lord, then let faith survey His love in the future, for remember that Christ's covenant and blood have something more in them than the past: He who has loved you and pardoned you, shall never cease to love and pardon. He is Alpha, and He shall be Oemga also. He is first and He shall be last.

Just remember that when you shall pass through the valley of the shadow of death you need fear no evil, for He is with you. When you shall stand in the cold floods of Jordan, you need not fear, for death cannot separate you from His love; and when you shall come into the mysteries of eternity you need not tremble. "For I am persuaded, that neither death nor life nor angels nor rulers nor powers nor things present nor things to come nor height nor depth nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord." Now Christian Friend, doesn't this lift you up? Doesn't this make you love God? Doesn't this bring you closer to the Lord your God? Surely as we look at the love of the Lord, it should make us love and appreciate Him more each and every day.

Rev. Earnie W. Lucas
Bible Baptist Church
Appomattox, Va.

Genuine Embossing — Wedding Invitations
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The Sunday School Lesson

COMMENTS BY HERBERT C. BRADSHAW

LESSON FOR JUNE 27, 1976

The Church and Civil Authorities

Scripture: 1 Kings 22:1-28; Acts 5:21b-29; Romans 13:1-10; Revelation 13:11-18

We must obey God rather than men. Acts 4:29

As in last week's International Sunday School lesson we found guidelines in the New Testament for dealing with controversies in the Church, so in this week's we find guidelines to govern the relation of the Christian to the state. In summary we must conclude that the Christian has the obligation to be a good, law-abiding citizen, but that this obligation is secondary to his obligation to God. Nevertheless, Christian history abounds in examples of conflict between Church and state or between Christians and government.

Paul's thesis holds that God instituted governments. This is tenable, for people need government for protection, to keep the strong from oppressing the weak. The Old Testament shows that God established the government of Israel and sought to provide direction for it through His prophets. The passage from 1 Kings in this week's lesson vividly shows that government did not always accept the prophetic counsel.

Christianity early came into conflict with government. The Jewish authority in Jerusalem, exercised by the high priest and the Sanhedrin with the permission of the Roman government, undertook by persuasion and force to stop the preaching of the Christian Gospel. In some instances, however, government proved a protection to Christianity, as Paul experienced in Corinth when the governor Gallio refused to hear charges against him (Acts 18:12-17); at Ephesus, when the town clerk dispersed the mob which threatened him (Acts 19:23-41); and when he exercised his Roman citizenship in various places for his protection. This protection is not explicitly for Romans 13. Another is Paul's intent to keep Christians from being identified with the rebellious attitude of the Jews toward Rome.

In 65 A.D. the Roman government under Nero launched an intensive persecution of Christians in which many were cruelly slaughtered. Other persecutions followed, among the most severe that under Diocletian in the 90s, the persecution begun by Decius in 250 which lasted until 260, and that under Diocletian, begun in 302. Less than a decade later, Diocleetian's adopted son and heir, Galerius, granted toleration to Christians in the East in 311. Two years later, Constantine and his imperial colleague, Licinius granted religious liberty in the entire empire.

Emperor Theodosius in 380 required all people in the empire to become Christians, thereby making Christianity the official religion of the Roman empire. Thus began a connection between Church and state which molded and colored the history of Europe. The successor states to the empire, the nations of Europe, continued the connection. Those who disagreed with the orthodox doctrines of the Church were punished, some by death, by the state for heresy. All infants, except Jewish, were required to be baptized into the Church; all who owned or worked property were taxed to support the Church; all people were required to attend the worship services of the Church.

Not even the Protestant Reformation ended this relationship. Protestant churches became state churches, as the Church of England (Anglican), the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian), the Reformed Church in the Netherland, the Lutheran Church in the Scandinavian nations and many German states. The religious war which ravaged Germany 1546-55 was settled by an agreement which allowed the ruler of each state to decide what the religion of the state would be.

With the European settlers the established churches were brought to America. An English preacher who came to Massachusetts, Roger Williams, became a strong advocate of religious liberty and was banished from Massachusetts for maintaining that the state had no authority in matters of conscience. He founded Providence and with John Clarke of Newport secured a charter for Rhode Island granting religious freedom to all the inhabitants.

The prospect of securing religious liberty attracted Dissenters from the established churches in the English colonies to support the Revolution. In consequence, freedom of conscience and separation of church and state were included in the guarantees of the Bill of Rights, a circumstance which should make next Sunday, the nation's bicentennial, a day of thanksgiving in all the churches and synagogues.

With a free church in a free state, the Christian is obligated to be a good citizen: to participate in government, to vote regularly, and to be ever alert to any infringement of freedom of conscience or any breach in the wall between church and state.

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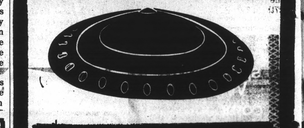

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Evergreen

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Rev. Edmond M. Terry and family in the death of his wife last Thursday.

The Evergreen United Methodist Choir will provide special music for the Mary Moore zone meeting at the Olive Branch United Methodist Church on Sunday, June 27th at 2:30 P.M.

The Adult Sunday School Class will have a cook-out at Evergreen United Methodist Church on Friday, June 25th. at 8:30 P.M.

Rev. Edmond M. Terry and daughter Sherry are spending some time with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Joe Terry of Lafayette, Ind.

The four children of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Cheatham of the Appomattox Hotel met recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. . E. Cheatham. They were; Mrs. Annie Ringham of Lynchburg, Mr. Tucker CHeatham of Appomattox, Mrs. Alice Babcock and son Huck of Columbia, S. C. and Mr. Zack Cheatham.

Mrs. Martha Staples has returned home after spending several months in a nursing home recovering from a broken hip

Mrs. Henry Stanley is a patient in the Lynchburg General Hospital recovering from injuries received in a fall at her home on Friday.

Mrs. Leona Carrico is a patient at the Lynchburg General Hospital.

Mrs. Nancy Harris is a patient at the Virginia B aptist Hospital, Lynchburg, Va.

Mrs. Marlon Pagel returned to her home in Wisconsin Sunday after visiting in the home of her brother-in-law and sister Mr. and Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham. Other visitors in the same home over the week-end were Mr. James E. Cheatham of Clearwater Florida, Rev. and Mrs. David L.Bailey of Gladys, Va. and Mrs. Minnie Massie of Hampton, Va.

Evergreen Baptist Church Vacation Bible School will continue through Friday June 25th from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. each evening. Parents night for the school will be Sunday, June 27th. at 7:00 P.M.

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